

Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation Detention Services Division 2017 Annual PREA Report

Summary

The purpose of this report is to assess and improve the effectiveness of the agency's sexual abuse prevention, detection, and response policies, practices, and training. This report presents data collection findings and corrective actions (if applicable) for the two adult jail facilities, the Montgomery County Detention Center (MCDC), the Montgomery County Correctional Facility (MCCF) and the agency. It includes data from 2017 and provides an assessment of progress made in addressing sexual abuse.

Background

The Prison Rape Elimination Act was established in 2003 to address the problem of sexual abuse and sexual harassment of persons in the custody of U.S. correctional agencies.

Pursuant to PREA policy requirements, each agency shall report their data annually. This report is Montgomery County's fourth annual report of findings and corrective actions (if applicable). This report focuses on 2017 allegations.

General Jail Information

The Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation serves nearly 1.04 million residents. There are two jails separated by about 14 miles. The Montgomery County Detention Center (MCDC) is responsible for the intake and processing of adult male and female offenders and has a capacity of up to 200 inmates. The Montgomery County Correctional Facility (MCCF), located in Boyds Maryland (near Clarksburg), is responsible for the custody and care of male and female offenders who are either in a pre-trial status or serving sentences of up to 18 months and has a capacity of 1,029 inmates. The Average Daily Population (ADP) in 2017 between the two jails was 611. Approximately 13,000 offenders are booked into Central Processing Unit annually.

PREA

The Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation (MCDOCR) has long embraced the principles associated with PREA. Since 2005 the MCDOCR has actively taken steps to educate and train staff, contractors and volunteers on prohibited contact and inappropriate relationships with persons under our custody. By complying with the PREA standards for jails and prisons, the MCDOCR demonstrates a continuing commitment to **Zero Tolerance** of sexual abuse in confinement settings. No matter when an alleged incident occurs, MCDOCR attempts to collect data on all PREA incidents, including those reported by offenders and/or inmates that took place in another jurisdiction and those that were previously reported. Each incident is reviewed and, if necessary, investigated.

The Detention Services Division has completed it's second PREA audit in December of 2017. It was a four-day process that included numerous interviews with staff, inmates, volunteers, contractors and an extensive and thorough review of documentation and process. There were recommendations made regarding sight lines at both facilities and inmate screenings along with a few changes in process by the auditors and the Detention Services Division is currently reviewing and addressing those. We expect to once again be found in full compliance of the PREA standards in 2018.

The Montgomery County Detention Center has closed the female and workers section after evaluating operations there. This has effectively placed any inmates housed at MCDC in one area and has freed up two officer positions. Management has reassigned these two positions so that operations can be completed more efficiently and effectively which has enhanced our ability to continue to detect, prevent, and deter any possible sexual assault, abuse or harassment in the inmate population.

The Montgomery County Correctional Facility has begun a video camera upgrade that includes 11 additional cameras, new servers that can store video footage for up to a year and the older cameras are being replaced with upgraded, higher definition cameras to improve the quality and detail of the picture.

The Information Technology department has met with the PREA Coordinator and Managers and steps have begun to design a computer program for the Departments PREA investigative packet. This will help improve an investigators proficiency to complete an accurate report and ensuring that all the necessary information is captured.

PREA Data Analysis

2017

Summary

Total Allegations Received – 26

Total Substantiated - 3

Total Unsubstantiated – 9

Total Unfounded – 13

Total Under Investigation – 1

4 Reports were received where the victim could not identify if the alleged abuser was an inmate or staff member.

All investigators have completed the Sexual Abuse Investigator Training in a Confinement Setting - Advanced Class online through the National Institute of Corrections.

The Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation is also an active participant in the County's newly formed Sexual Assault and Response Team that includes members from area agencies to include victim assistance and advocacy groups, local law enforcement/and Sheriffs, local hospitals and the United States Army.

Robert L. Green, Director

January 30, 2018

Date